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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (To be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/917,613
	Filing Date	July 26, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Marco Riva
	Art Unit	2838
	Examiner Name	Y. J. Han
	Attorney Docket No.	856063.706

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Individual Name	E. Russell Tarleton	Customer Number <b>00500</b>
Signature	<i>E. Russell Tarleton</i>	
Date	October 10, 2003	

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Marco Riva  
Application No. : 09/917,613  
Filed : July 26, 2001  
For : CONDUCTION LINE DECOUPLING CIRCUIT

Examiner : Y. J. Han  
Art Unit : 2838  
Docket No. : 856063.706  
Date : October 10, 2003

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents:

Applicant submits the following in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed September 10, 2003. In that Restriction Requirement, the Examiner required applicant to elect between Species I, II, and II corresponding to Figures 2, 3, and 4, respectively.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the basis for the Restriction Requirement and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the same.

Applicant provisionally elects to prosecute Species I shown in Figure 2, with traverse.

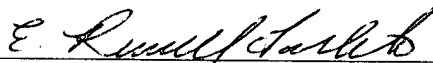
All three embodiments of the invention shown in the figures fall within the scope of independent claim 1, and operate upon the same principle, *i.e.*, connecting a protection circuit in parallel to the gate terminal of a pass gate element and to one of two conduction lines. The protection circuit is designed to stop the propagation of a disturbing signal over the propagation lines so as to provide the correct turn-off condition for the pass gate element, in other words, the right condition for isolation of the conduction lines. Isolation is provided between the conduction lines (L1, L2) that are interconnected by a pass gate element (N1), in spite of the presence of a disturbing signal on the lines, so as to avoid the malfunction situation of prior circuits. The disclosed and claimed embodiments of the invention utilize a protection circuit that includes a protection transistor (P2 in Species I and II, and N3 in Species II) connected to the control terminal (G1) of the pass gate element (N1) and at least one of the conduction lines (L1, L2).

All three embodiments shown in Figures 2-4 fall within in the scope of independent claim 1. In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement.

Respectfully submitted,

Marco Riva

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Enclosure:

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